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ABSTRACT

This module on sewing seams, one in a series on the single needle lockstitch sewing machine for student self-study, contains three sections. Each section includes the following parts: an introduction, directions, an objective, learning activities, student information, student self-check, check-out activities, and an instructor's final checklist. The sections cover the following topics: sewing straight seams, sewing French seams, and sewing flat-felled seams. The material is illustrated with line drawings. (KC)

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MODULE 4

THE SINGLE NEEDLE LOCKSTITCH MACHINE

CE 036 681

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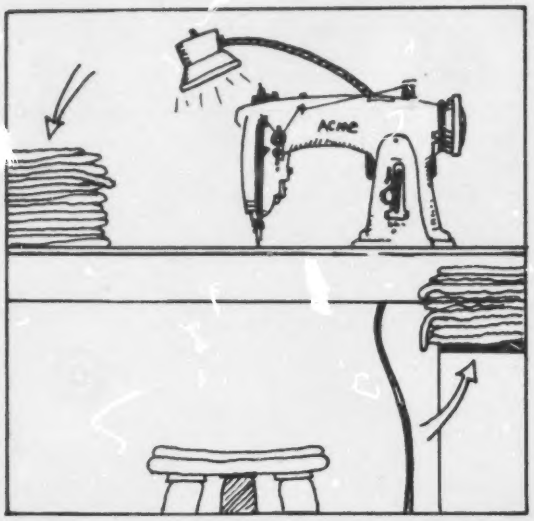
sewing straight seams



SEWING SEAMS

(Straight Seam)

INTRODUCTION

Sewing seams is a very basic but important operation in the industrial sewing industry. This module will acquaint you with straight seams and present the steps necessary to construct this type of seam.

DIRECTIONS

Read the Objective. If you think that you can accomplish this Objective now, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

If you feel you are not able to accomplish this Objective now, look at the Learning Activities. Begin the Learning Activities and as soon as you feel you are ready, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

OBJECTIVE

Given two plies of fabric, thread, and a lockstitch machine, construct a plain seam. Top ply of fabric should be placed over the bottom ply so that all edges of the fabric are even. The seam must be uniform in width and free of puckers.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. READ Student Information, SEWING STRAIGHT SEAMS. Follow the directions and practice sewing seams. Ask your instructor for assistance if necessary. Make at least three straight seams.

2. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, SEWING STRAIGHT SEAMS.

3. TURN to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Sewing Straight Seams

Seams form the basic structural element in the manufacture of garments. A straight seam is made by stitching two pieces of fabric with the edges even and the seam width uniform (Figure1). Seaming should be approximately 12 to 14 stitches per inch (s.p.i.).

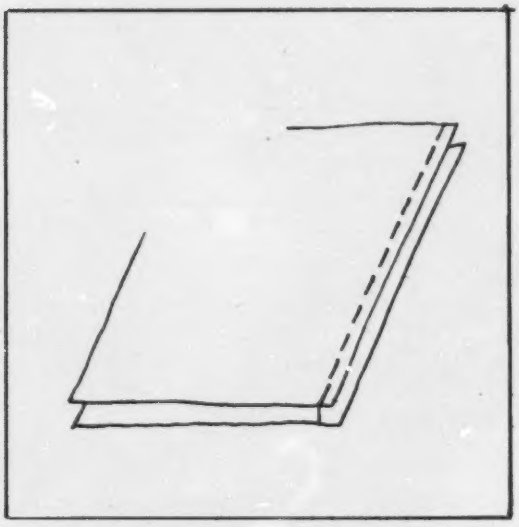


Figure 1

If more than two pieces of fabric are joined by stitching a seam of uniform width, the seam is still considered to be a straight seam (Figure 2).

Figure 2

In some cases, a straight seam is used to join two pieces of fabric in which one piece is offset as in Figure 3. The seam is still referred to as a straight or plain seam.

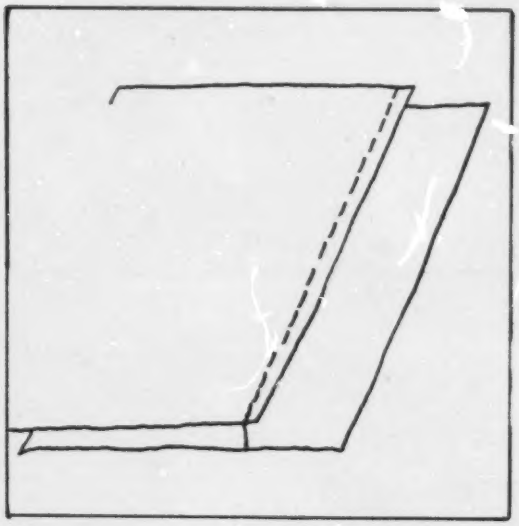


Figure 3

When making a plain seam, follow these steps.

1. Use two pieces of fabric which are the same size. Place one piece of fabric over the other so that the edges are even.

2. The needle of the machine should be at the top of its stroke with the top and bottom threads under the presser foot and toward the rear of the machine.

3. Place just enough pressure on the knee lifter to provide space to place the fabric under the foot, even with the needle hole. The side edge should be lined up with the gauge wall you are using.

4. Hold material with your right hand. Lower presser foot and slowly start machine.

5. Feed the fabric so that it remains taut. Use your left hand to direct the fabric after it has been stitched.

6. Back tack (backstitch) each end of the seam to secure the seam from coming apart.

A straight seam may be finished on the edge by a pinking machine. Edges are generally pinked in the cutting process and seamed using the steps in sewing a straight seam (Figure 4).

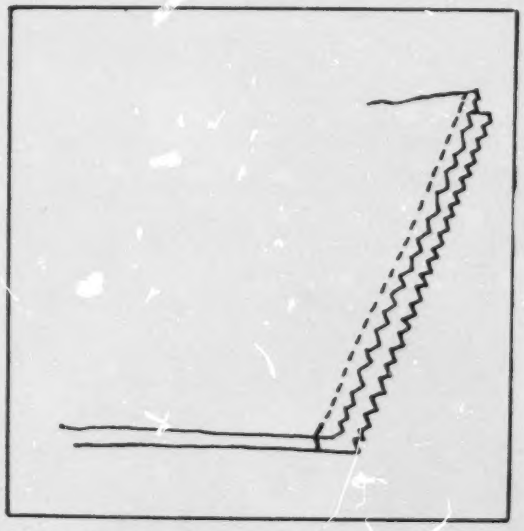


Figure 4

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

Sewing Straight Seams

Write the answers to the following statements on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Backstitching is not necessary on a straight seam. (True or false)

2. Seams should be free of puckers. (True or false)

3. Stitches should number 8 to 10 per inch. (True or false)

4. The edge of the seam should be lined up with the gauge wall. (True or false)

CHECK-OUT ACTIVITIES

The statement below explains the activities you must be able to complete in order to finish this module. After you go through the activities, your instructor will rate your performance using the Instructor's Final Checklist, SEWING STRAIGHT SEAMS.

Your instructor will provide you with fabric, lockstitch machine, and thread. Construct a straight seam.

Student _____

Date _____

Instructor's Final Checklist

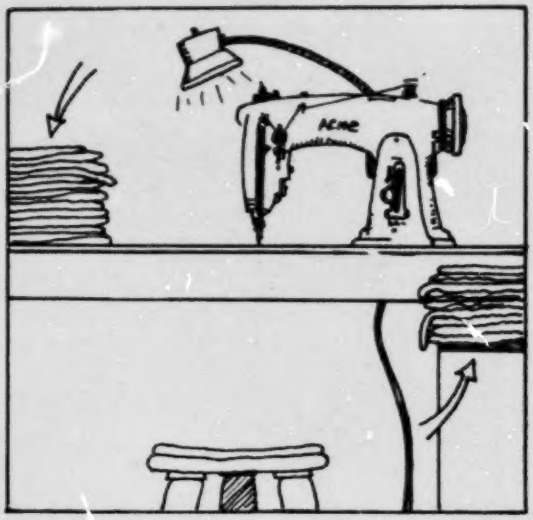
Check the student's performance in the following elements of sewing straight seams.

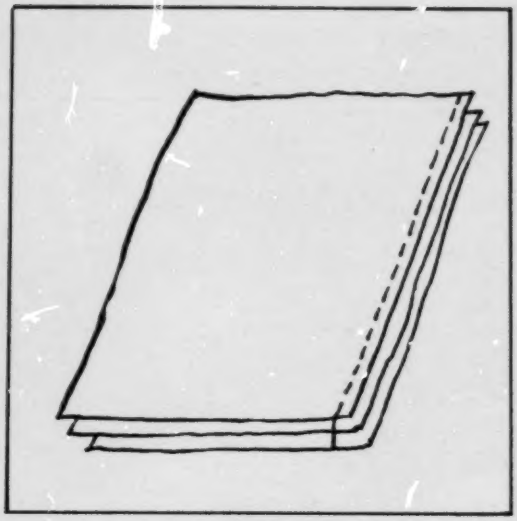
Place an X in the appropriate box indicating not accomplished, partially accomplished, or fully accomplished. If, because of special circumstances, the item was impossible to complete, place an X in the "Not Applicable" box.

Performance Level: All items must receive a rating of FULLY ACCOMPLISHED (or Not Applicable). If any items are rated Not Accomplished or Partially Accomplished, the student and instructor will discuss this and decide which learning activities must be repeated.

	Student Performance			
	Not Applicable	Not Accomplished	Partially Accomplished	Fully Accomplished
The student:				
a. Sewed a straight seam with fabric edges even.	( )	( )	( )	( )
b. Sewed a straight seam uniform in width.	( )	( )	( )	( )
c. Sewed a straight seam free of puckers.	( )	( )	( )	( )

sewing french seams





SEWING SEAMS

(French Seam)

INTRODUCTION

Sewing seams is a very basic but important operation in the industrial sewing industry. This module will acquaint you with french seams and present the steps necessary to construct this type of seam.

DIRECTIONS

Read the Objective. If you think that you can accomplish this Objective now, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

If you feel you are not able to accomplish this Objective now, look at the Learning Activities. Begin the Learning Activities and as soon as you feel you are ready, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

OBJECTIVE

Given two plies of fabric, thread, and a lockstitch machine, construct a french seam. The seam must be stitched straight and free of puckers.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. READ Student Information, SEWING FRENCH SEAMS. Follow the directions presented in each step. Ask your instructor for assistance if necessary. Practice sewing at least six french seams.

2. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, SEWING FRENCH SEAMS.

3. TURN to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Sewing French Seams

A french seam is used to provide a garment with a neat seam on the inside. French seams are frequently used with very sheer fabrics.

Place two pieces of fabric together, wrong sides touching. Stitch a straight seam approximately 1/8 inch (.32 cm) from the edge (Figure 5).

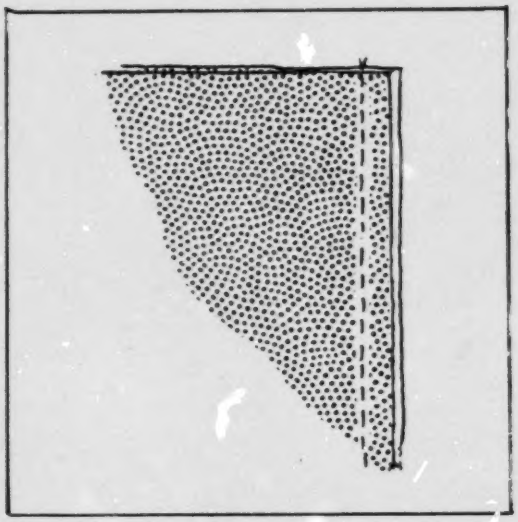


Figure 5

Turn the fabric with right sides together making sure the first seam is in the fold line (Figure 6).

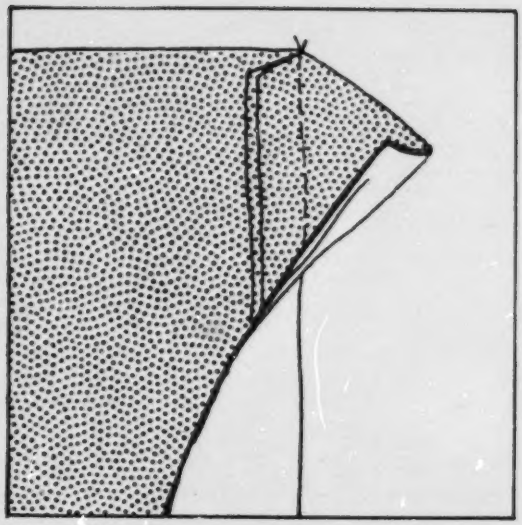


Figure 6

Stitch a straight seam 1/2 inch (1.28 cm) from the edge (Figure 7).

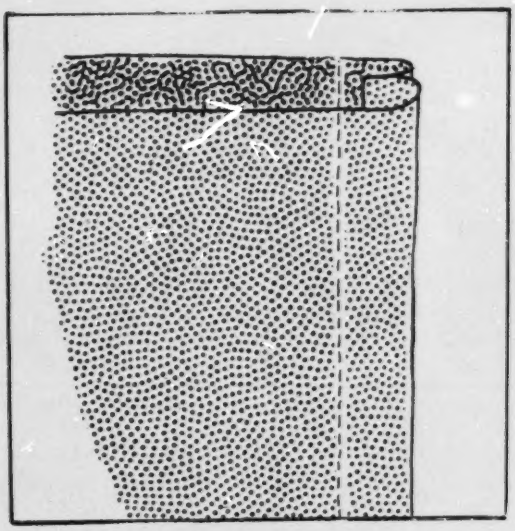


Figure 7

Practice making at least six french seams.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

Sewing French Seams

Write the answers to the following statements on a separate sheet of paper.

1. All french seams must be sewn with right sides together. (True or false)

2. French seams are frequently used with sheer material. (True or false)

3. French seams are used for neatness on the outside seam. (True or false)

4. French seams should be straight and free of puckers. (True or false)

CHECK-OUT ACTIVITIES

The statement below explains the activities you must be able to complete in order to finish this module. After you go through the activities, your instructor will rate your performance using the Instructor's Final Checklist, SEWING FRENCH SEAMS.

Your instructor will provide you with fabric, lockstitch machine, and thread. Construct a french seam.

Student _____

Date _____

Instructor's Final Checklist

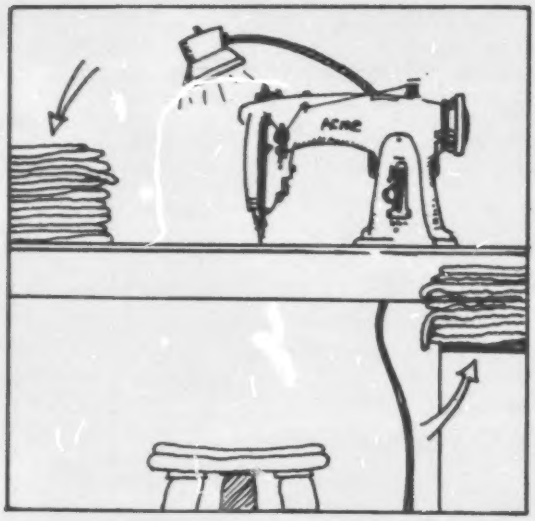
Check the student's performance in the following elements of sewing french seams.

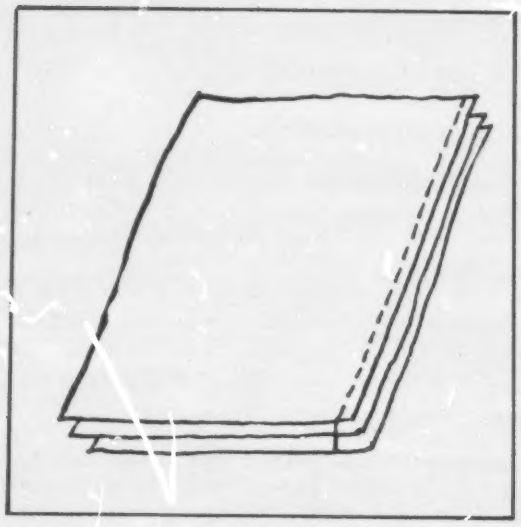
Place an X in the appropriate box indicating not accomplished, partially accomplished, or fully accomplished. If, because of special circumstances, the item was impossible to complete, place an X in the "Not Applicable" box.

Performance Level: All items must receive a rating of FULLY ACCOMPLISHED (or Not Applicable). If any items are rated Not Accomplished or Partially Accomplished, the student and instructor will discuss this and decide which learning activities must be repeated.

	Student Performance			
	Not Applicable	Not Accomplished	Partially Accomplished	Fully Accomplished
The student:				
a. Sewed a french seam straight.	( )	( )	( )	( )
b. Sewed a french seam free of puckers.	( )	( )	( )	( )

sewing flat felled seams





SEWING SEAMS

(Flat Felled Seam)

INTRODUCTION

Sewing seams is a very basic but important operation in the industrial sewing industry. This module will acquaint you with flat felled seams and present the steps necessary to construct this type of seam.

DIRECTIONS

Read the Objective. If you think that you can accomplish this Objective now, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

If you feel you are not able to accomplish this Objective now, look at the Learning Activities. Begin the Learning Activities and as soon as you feel you are ready, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

OBJECTIVE

Given two plies of fabric, thread, and a lockstitch machine, construct a flat felled seam. The seam must be uniform in width, topstitched straight, and free of puckers.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. READ Student Information, SEWING FLAT FELLED SEAMS. Follow the directions and practice making seams. Ask your instructor for assistance if necessary. Make at least six flat felled seams.

2. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, SEWING FLAT FELLED SEAMS.

3. TURN to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Sewing Flat Felled Seams

The flat felled seam may be made on a double needle machine. In this module you will sew flat felled seams on a single needle lockstitch machine.

Flat felled seams are frequently used in garments such as men's shirts and tailored pajamas. The seam is sturdy, lies flat, and provides a neat appearance.

When constructing a flat felled seam, use two pieces of fabric approximately the same size. Lay the top piece of fabric over the bottom so that the bottom is offset about 5/8 inch (1.6 cm). Stitch a seam which is approximately 1/4 inch (.64 cm) in width (Figure 8). Make certain your first seam is straight. If it is not, your finished seam will be unacceptable (Figure 9).

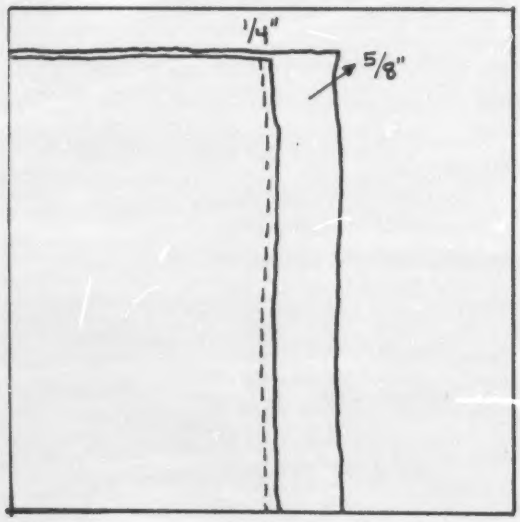


Figure 8

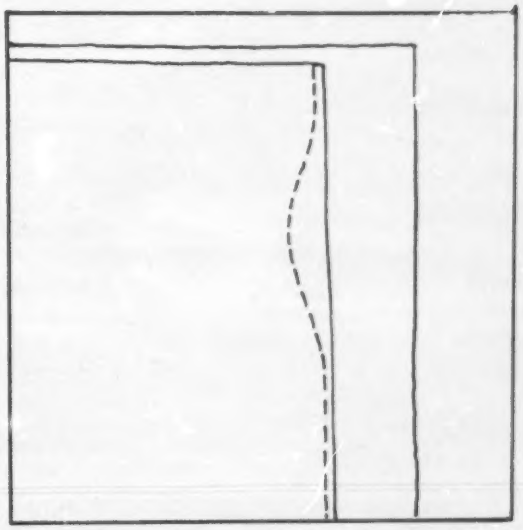


Figure 9

In addition, make certain you hold the top and bottom pieces of fabric taut and stitch straight so that the offset seam will be of uniform length. If you do not, your offset seam may look like Figure 10.

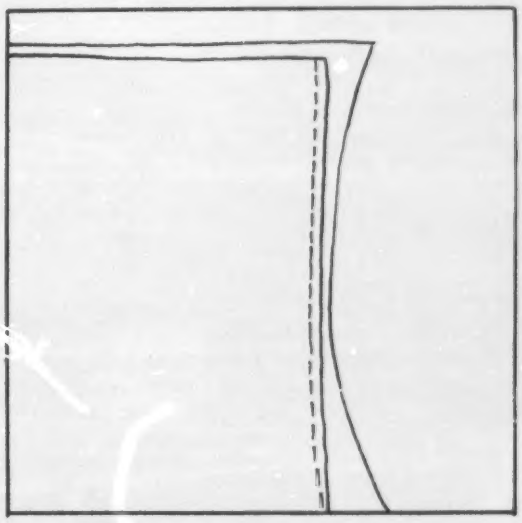


Figure 10

Open the seam (Figure 11).

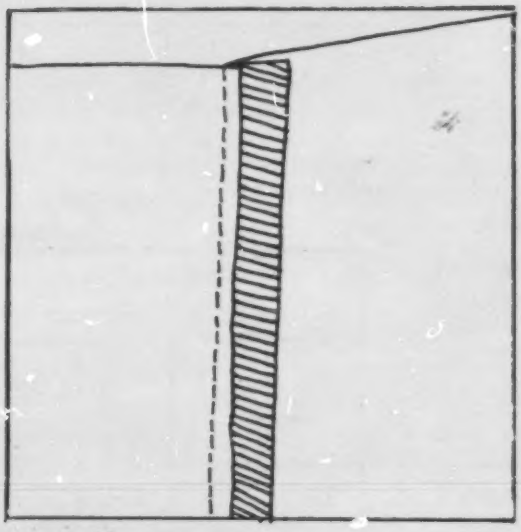


Figure 11

Turn the offset seam over the first seam. Turn the edge of the offset seam under and topstitch (Figure 12).

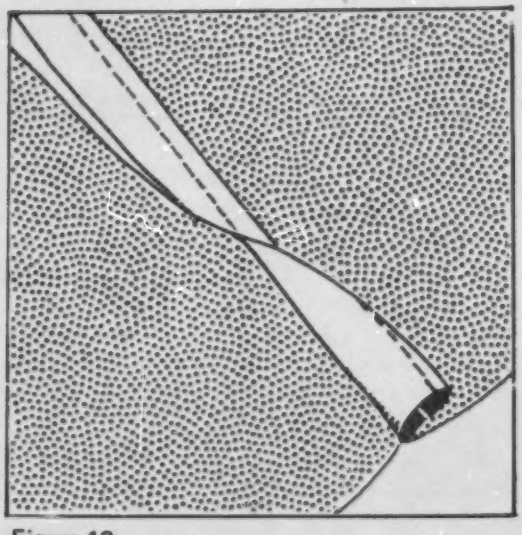


Figure 12

Make at least six flat felled seams.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

Sewing Flat Felled Seams

Write the answers to the following statements on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Seams must be uniform according to specifications. (True or false)

2. Flat felled seams may be constructed on a single needle machine. (True or false)

3. Flat felled seams are frequently used in men's shirts and pajamas. (True or false)

4. The seam is sturdy and lies flat. (True or false)

CHECK-OUT ACTIVITIES

The statement below explains the activities you must be able to complete in order to finish this module. After you go through the activities, your instructor will rate your performance using the Instructor's Final Checklist, SEWING FLAT FELLED SEAMS.

Your instructor will provide you with fabric, lockstitch machine, and thread. Construct a flat felled seam.

Student _____

Date _____

Instructor's Final Checklist

Check the student's performance in the following elements of sewing flat felled seams.

Place an X in the appropriate box indicating not accomplished, partially accomplished, or fully accomplished. If, because of special circumstances, the item was impossible to complete, place an X in the "Not Applicable" box.

Performance Level: All items must receive a rating of FULLY ACCOMPLISHED (or Not Applicable). If any items are rated Not Accomplished or Partially Accomplished, the student and instructor will discuss this and decide which learning activities must be repeated.

	Student Performance			
	Not Applicable	Not Accomplished	Partially Accomplished	Fully Accomplished
The student:				
a. Sewed a flat felled seam uniform in width.	( )	( )	( )	( )
b. Sewed a flat felled seam with straight topstitching.	( )	( )	( )	( )
c. Sewed a flat felled seam free of puckers.	( )	( )	( )	( )